

[29th January 1923]

*Dismissal of Mr. T. V. Rajendram Pillai, late Manager of Kadavur estate.*

669 Q.—MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. T. V. Rajendram Pillai, late Manager of Kadavur estate, was dismissed from service by the Collector of Trichinopoly before the said Manager's actual reversion to British service and without the permission of the Court of Wards; if so, whether the dismissal is technically correct;

(b) what the circumstances were that led to the above dismissal; and

(c) whether there were any irregularities in the inquiries conducted in this behalf in respect of recording oral evidence, cross-examination of witnesses, etc.?

A.—(a) T. V. Rajendram Pillai's dismissal from service was in accordance with rules.

(b) The Government do not consider it desirable in public interests to publish the circumstances under which he was dismissed.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"With regard to the answer to paragraph (a), may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether, considering the fact that this Rajendram Pillai was dismissed while he was on furlough and was never reverted to the British service, that the directions of the Court of Wards were not carried out (namely, his reduction and reversion to the British service) and that the Civil Service Rules lay down that an officer proceeding on leave from foreign service is not ordinarily considered to revert to British service unless and until he actually rejoins his appointment in the British service, and further considering that he drew his salary and arrears of salary as manager of the Kadavur estate, he is still prepared to maintain that his dismissal was technically correct?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have nothing further to add to the answer already given, Sir."

*Irrigation schemes.*

670 Q.—RAO BAHADUR T. BALAJI RAO NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(i) in what stage the matter of raising the level of the Kistna anicut is; and

(ii) whether any active steps are being taken to work out one or more irrigation schemes during the next official year?

A.—(i) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to question No. 467 (November 1922).

(ii) No important irrigation scheme is proposed to be taken up for execution during the next official year.

*Water-supply of Cuddapah town.*

671 Q.—MR. B. P. DEVARAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that the water-supply in Cuddapah town is inadequate;

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(2) whether the improvements carried out in the Bugga water-works have been successful;

(3) whether it is a fact that the pumping station erected at one of the experimental wells gave way in several places, and even after repairs has cracked and become dangerous for habitation; and

(4) what action the Government propose to take in order to supplement the present defective water-supply of the town?

A.—(1) & (4) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 675 of 1921.

(2) The answer is in the affirmative.

(3) A report will be called for.

*Imposition of punitive tax on Mr. Ramaswami Chaudhari of Tenali.*

672 Q.—Rao Bahadur K. GOPALAKRISHNAYYA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that punitive tax was imposed on Mr. T. Ramaswami Chaudhari, Bar.-at-law, of Tenali, Guntur district;

(2) whether his article in the 'Ryot Patrika' on the Kenya question had anything to do with the imposition;

(3) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the correspondence that led to this imposition;

(4) whether Mr. Chaudhari was given an opportunity to explain himself before the tax was imposed upon him; and

(5) whether it is a fact that this imposition has had a demoralizing effect on the people?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to question No. 607.

Rao Bahadur K. GOPALAKRISHNAYYA :—"The answer given here refers to the answer to a previous question No. 607, but no answer to paragraphs (4) and (5) is found therein. Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to give the House the answer to paragraphs (4) and (5)?"

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"The previous answer covers paragraphs (4) and (5) also, Sir. The taxation is imposed under statutory authority and the apportionment of the taxation is made by the District Magistrate. So far as I am aware, there is no particular provision for hearing parties before such apportionment takes place. That is so far as paragraph (4) is concerned.

As regards paragraph (5), Sir, whether the imposition of the tax has had a demoralizing effect on the people or not is a matter of opinion. So far as the Government are aware, it has not had such effect at all."

Diwan Bahadur M. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he is in a position to tell us whether this gentleman had led any campaign of non-payment of taxes, whether the Government have any information and whether they made any enquiries in consequence of this or the previous question as to the exact reasons why this gentleman has been asked to pay this tax?"